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REVIEWS

Patriotism and Religion. By SHAILER MATHEWS. New York: Macmillan Co., 1918. Pp. 161. \$1.25.

This compact little volume does not disappoint those who are familiar with Dr. Mathews' crisp, sententious style and his swift stabs at the objects of his criticism. Written under the stress of war, there is an undercurrent of moral passion which must have made the original lectures, at the University of North Carolina, very effective.

After showing the intimate relation of the sentiments of patriotism and religion, he develops their mutual influence and interactions, historically rather than philosophically. "Religion," he says, "has always been a super-patriotism. Theology has been a super-politics." In his discussion of the moral values of patriotism he contrasts vividly the German and Entente types, closing with a fine challenge of the German slander that the Americans are a dollar-mad people.

In his chapter on "Religion and War" he coolly dissects the various types of pacifism, and after a skilful use of the story of the Good Samaritan who arrived early in the midst of the *Schrecklichkeit* he concludes: "Pacifism under such circumstances is anti-social, a misguided idealism, if not transcendentalized selfishness." He boldly says: "For an American to refuse to share in the present war . . . is not Christian." There is a keen handling of the question of what is involved in the Christian love for enemies, in considering "the service of religion to patriotism," and a strong argument for a League of Nations.

G. WALTER FISKE

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Economic Problems of Peace after War. Second Series. The W. Stanley Jevons Lectures at University College, London, in 1918. By W. R. SCOTT. Cambridge: University Press, 1918. Pp. xii+136. \$2.00.

This is a suggestive and discriminating series of lectures. The first two, "Mare Liberum—Aer Clausus?" and "A League of Nations and Commercial Policy," are of particular interest just now in connection with the vigorous debate on the subject of a League of Nations. The

other four lectures, "The Financial Burden of Today and Tomorrow," "Conscription or Proscription of Capital," "The Period of Financial Transition," and "Ten Years After," deal with problems of finance. The studies are scholarly and convincing. Historical parallels and antecedents are cited frequently. Little new material is presented, in the way of either theory or fact.

The author looks for no decisive immediate results from a League of Nations. "It would be on its trial for many years," and, meantime, "each Power must continue to provide for its own defence." The final conclusion is that "the most that can be said for the scheme at present is that it is a favourable uncertainty, against which is to be set an unfavourable certainty."

In the matter of war finance the position is taken that neither the characteristically English system of taxation nor the characteristically German system of financing the war wholly by bonding is satisfactory, but a combination: taxing nearly to the limit of endurance, and borrowing for the balance, revenues from taxes to be sufficient to develop a sinking fund for the retirement of the bonds.

ROBERT FRY CLARK

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Matrilineal Kinship, and the Question of Its Priority (Memoirs of the American Anthropological Association, Vol. IV, No. I, January-March, 1917). By E. SIDNEY HARTLAND.

Mr. Hartland, who ranks among the contemporary founders of social anthropology, returns in this monograph to a subject already treated by Bachofen, McLennan, Sir John Lubbock, and Lewis H. Morgan. All these investigators made matrilineal kinship universally prior to patrilineal kinship in the development of social organization. Mr. Hartland agrees with them and argues that the evidence recently adduced for the priority of patrilineal descent among certain tribes of Australia and North America does not invalidate their conclusions. Where patrilineal reckoning now exists, Mr. Hartland either finds clear traces of a previous system of matrilineal reckoning or proves to his own satisfaction that the patrilineal folk for various reasons are not in a truly primitive condition. He considers that the burden of proof rests on those "who deny that female descent has in any particular case preceded the reckoning of kinship exclusively through males" (p. 87).

American anthropologists profess to be much shocked by this attempt of one of their British brethren to revive a theory supposed to have